

## PRESS RELEASE

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## The U.S. support provides a better learning environment for the pupils from Dolneni

The investment of the American people in Macedonia is \$3 million. Primary school 'Peco Daskalot' from Dolneni was granted a support for the electricity and windows replacement in the school. On October 16th, the Mayor of Dolneni Izudin Karisic, USAID Democracy, Local Government and Education Office Director Dwaine Lee, USAID PEP Chief of Party Keith Prenton and School Principal Slave Zdraveski, celebrated the renovation along with the teachers and students.

'By renovating this school we have created a better and safer learning environment. We are also increasing the energy efficiency of this school so that the municipality will save money...money it can invest back into educational quality', said Biljana Velickovska, USAID Development Outreach and Communication Office

By 2011 USAID will have renovated over 100 schools, which is nearly one-third of the primary schools in Macedonia. The renovation component of the USAID Primary Education Project supports the creation of better learning environments and decentralization of responsibility for school facilities to municipal governments. The project also works to increase the access and use of information technology and to improve the quality of math and science education in Macedonian primary schools.

The USAID Primary Education Project (PEP), implemented by the Academy for Educational Development (AED), works with all public primary schools in Macedonia. The project seeks to improve the quality of instruction and increase employment skills of students. The overall goal of the USAID Education Program is to strengthen education in Macedonia and to support decentralization efforts, as Macedonia seeks entrance to the European Union.

## NOTE TO EDITORS:

The American people, through USAID, have invested nearly \$500 million in Macedonia since 1993. USAID is implementing projects that create jobs, reduce corruption, and prepare Macedonian students for the workforce. These initiatives improve the quality of life and support Macedonia's transition to a stable and prosperous democracy. USAID provides economic and humanitarian assistance in more than 100 countries. For more information please visit <a href="http://macedonia.usaid.gov">http://macedonia.usaid.gov</a>.